

### Pitfall Practice in Entry 4

- ▶ Read the excerpts & identify which question the fictitious candidate was attempting to answer. (What? Why? How?)
- ▶ Which pitfall(s) does the sample represent?
- ▶ What would make the excerpt stronger?

### 3 Pitfalls

	<u>Pitfall</u>	vs.	<u>Power</u>
	<u>Storytelling</u>		<u>Right to the facts</u>
	<u>Vague &amp; Irrelevant information</u>		<u>Specific Description &amp; Evidence</u>
<u>Invisible Teacher</u>	<u>Promoting Programs</u>	vs.	<u>Focused on OWN contribution</u>

#### Sample 1 Pitfall \_\_\_\_\_

Four years ago I participated in a writing training called the *North West Writing Project*. This project was competitive and of the 100 teachers who applied in the state, only 35 were selected. The project has been effectively operating in our state for 15 years and has had a wide influence on writers and teachers. I first heard about the project from a colleague who had participated in an earlier year. As part of this project I read numerous books, designed and presented lessons and collaborated with teachers from all over the state...

#### Sample 2 Pitfall \_\_\_\_\_

...This accomplishment was significant because it was highly competitive and it attracted teachers of many different subjects. Many performance based assessments require students to show their thinking. Despite this need, little assistance has been available to help teachers use writing as a tool for thinking. As a social studies teacher, I find that written communication is critical to taking a stand...

#### Sample 3 Pitfall \_\_\_\_\_

The GLAD program made a big difference to student learning in my classroom. The program was designed to work with second language students, but all students learn well with the techniques. The GLAD strategies use many modalities and reinforce brain-based learning. Students loved the GLAD chants and charts. With GLAD, every unit began with poems and sentence patterning charts. Students said that learning with GLAD was much more fun than learning the "old" way.

#### Sample 3 Pitfall \_\_\_\_\_

Using the Parent Portal was significant because I was able to get more assignments in on time. With the use of the Portal, I had fewer students who took incompletes in the class. Parents accessed their child's grades and saw when grades were falling. This communication made a big difference.